For Immediate Release:

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Taylorville, Illinois: As a community bank, Peoples Bank & Trust recognizes the value of volunteerism in our communities. To recognize, commend and promote volunteerism, Peoples Bank & Trust has established a program to recognize outstanding community volunteers who personally exhibit outstanding volunteerism and promote the improvement of our communities.

Jacqueline Nation has been chosen as our current Volunteer of the Quarter. Jacque has devoted her free time to ensure dogs and cats find permanent homes. For the past several years, Jacque has spent many Saturdays taking dogs and cats to no-kill shelters in Illinois and across the Midwest. Jacque works with two volunteer groups, Bootheel Paws Express and PAWS (Pushin another Waggin' to Safety), that share the same mission: To transport dogs and cats from kill shelters and puppy mills to safe environments where they can be adopted out. Jacque said, "The first trip with filled with so much emotion and as I was waiting for the dogs to arrive from St. Louis, I asked another volunteer what I was supposed to do." She explained everything to me from giving the animals something to drink to walking them before we loaded them into our vehicles. Jacque explained that there are countless hours spent trying to find rescues that will take the dogs and find people to adopt or foster homes so these animals can be saved. There are 6-8 million dogs and cats that enter shelters every year and another 2-4 million are euthanized. 80% of those animals are healthy and could be adopted.

Jacque is the Treasurer for the City of Taylorville and is married to Jeff Nation. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Jacque and she will help you get started.

In honor of Jacque's volunteer services, Peoples Bank & Trust made a donation to the Animal Health Center and Helping Paws Project on Jacque's behalf. Her name has been placed on a plaque displayed in the bank's lobby.

Peoples Bank & Trust is an independent Community Bank with ten offices located in Pana, Taylorville, Altamont, Charleston, Tower Hill, Springfield, Morrisonville, Palmyra, Waverly and White Hall. Peoples is a full service bank offering outstanding customer service to consumers, small business, and farmers in Central Illinois. People First Bancshares, Inc., with corporate offices in Pana, Illinois, is the holding company for Peoples Bank & Trust.